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DENIED IN FULL

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1. [REDACTED] DECEMBER, GENERAL CESAR B E N A V I D E S, MINISTER OF INTERIOR, AND COLONEL JAUN MANUEL C O N T R E R A S, CHIEF OF THE DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA), BRIEFED [REDACTED] ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF DETAINEES AND ON THE INTERNAL POLITICAL AND SUBVERSIVE SITUATION. BENAVIDES SAID THAT SINCE THE SEPTEMBER 1973 MILITARY TAKEOVER, 38,568 PERSONS HAD BEEN DETAINED AND 8458 HAD SOUGHT ASYLUM AND LEFT CHILE, NOT INCLUDING THE CURRENT GROUP IN THE ITALIAN EMBASSY. HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN OF THE 38,568 DETAINED:

1. 22,531 HAVE BEEN PROCESSED AND GRANTED UNCONDITIONAL LIBERTY EITHER IN CHILE OR ABROAD, AND 4,800 OF THAT TOTAL CHOSE THE LATTER AND LEFT THE COUNTRY.

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- B. 3,048 HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BUT NOT YET SENTENCED;
- C. 505 HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO PRISON TERMS;
- D. 3,266 ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROCESSED; AND
- E. 1,218 ARE BEING HELD UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE STATE OF SIEGE AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN PROCESSED, INCLUDING 307 DELINQUENTS WHO ARE NOT BEING HELD UNDER POLITICAL CHARGES.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY ABOUT INDIVIDUALS WHO CANNOT BE LOCATED, BENAVIDES SAID THAT SOME ARE HELD SECRETLY BECAUSE THEY ARE PART OF SENSITIVE, ONGOING SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS. HE ADDED THAT IF THEIR FAMILIES WERE ADVISED OF THEIR DETENTION, IT WOULD ALERT OTHERS BEING SOUGHT BY THE SECURITY SERVICES. HE SAID THAT IN OTHER CASES, THE PEOPLE INVOLVED HAVE LEFT CHILE ILLEGALLY OR GAINED ASYLUM USING FALSE DOCUMENTATION.

3. BENAVIDES SAID THAT THE COST TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DETAINEES FOR 1974 WAS ABOUT 600 MILLION ESCUDOS (ABOUT U.S. \$390,000 AT THE THEN OFFICIAL RATE OF 1,500 ESCUDOS TO THE U.S. \$1.) HE SAID THAT OF THE CURRENT 100 DETAINEES WAITING TO GO ABROAD, ONLY 16 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. ONE [REDACTED] PRESENT SUGGESTED THAT 100 DETAINEES BE PUT ON A CHARTERED PLANE

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AND FLOWN TO MEXICO, TO LET THE MEXICANS HANDLE THE PROBLEM. HE ADDED THAT THEIR EXPECTED REJECTION COULD BE USED TO PUBLICIZE THE RELUCTANCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT THEM.

4. BENAVIDES SAID THAT THE 32 HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER ALLENDE GOVERNMENT ARE BEING HELD AT THE RITOQUE PRISON CAMP.

(COMMENT: [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] BENAVIDES ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO PROVE ANY KIND OF SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST ANY OF THE 32 OFFICIALS. [REDACTED], WHO CONFIRMED THE ABOVE FIGURES ON THE DETAINEES, ADDED THAT BENAVIDES DID NOT SUGGEST ANY GOVERNMENT PLAN TO FACILITATE THE RELEASE OF ANY OF THE OFFICIALS.)

5. BENAVIDES SAID THERE HAD BEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS, INCLUDING CONSIDERABLE CONTACT WITH THE FOREIGN PRESS. HE ADDED THAT THE LATTER CULMINATED WITH THE EXPULSION FROM CHILE OF RENAN FUENTE ALBA, LEFTWING LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC), WHO HE SAID HAD CONTACT WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR) VIA CLAUDIO HUPE, ANOTHER LEFTWING PDC LEADER WHO WAS ARRESTED ON 11 OCTOBER. (COMMENT: [REDACTED])

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SAID THAT FUENTEALBA'S NAME WAS INCLUDED, ALONG WITH HUEPE AND OTHER LEFTWING PDC LEADERS, IN MIR DOCUMENTATION WHICH WAS FOUND IN THE HOME OF MIGUEL ENRIQUEZ, FORMER HEAD OF THE MIR WHO WAS KILLED IN A SHOOTOUT WITH SECURITY FORCES ON 5 OCTOBER.)

6. FOLLOWING BENAVIDES' BRIEFING, CONTRERAS OF DINA REPORTED THAT THE GROUPS WORKING THE HARDEST AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT WERE THE PDC, THE MIR, AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHILE (PCCH). HE ADDED THAT THE PDC WAS THE MOST DANGEROUS FORCE, AND SAID THAT IT WAS BEING ASSISTED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES ABROAD. HE SAID THAT THE LEFTWING OF THE PDC HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE MIR, AND HAS A SECRET PACT WITH THE PCCH FOR COOPERATION.

7. CONTRERAS SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO ASSISTING THE PDC, THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT ELEMENTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ARE HELPING THE MIR. AS EXAMPLES, HE CITED RECENT FINDS OF MIR ARMS CACHES IN VARIOUS CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTIES. HE ADDED THAT THE SECURITY FORCES RECENTLY ARRESTED A CATHOLIC NUN COMING FROM ARGENTINA, WHO WAS CARRYING MORE THAN U.S. \$30,000 WHICH WAS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE MIR.

8. [REDACTED]

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9. CONTRERAS SAID THAT THE PCCH HAS BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, AND THAT SOME 40 PCCH MEMBERS WERE ARRESTED IN EARLY DECEMBER WHILE PARTICIPATING IN POLITICAL MEETINGS. HE SAID THAT DINA ESTIMATES THE PCCH HAS SOME 2,000 MEMBERS WHO ARE ACTIVE IN SMALL RESISTANCE COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT CHILE. THE MAIN WORK OF THESE COMMITTEES IS TO AGITATE AMONG THE WORKERS AND TO PROPAGATE ANTI-GOVERNMENT RUMORS. HE SAID THE COMMITTEES RECEIVE GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM RADIO MOSCOW.

10. CONTRERAS SAID THAT DINA CONSIDERS THE MIR TO BE ALMOST DESTROYED. HE SAID THAT ONLY THREE MEMBERS OF THE MIR POLITICAL COMMISSION REMAIN AT LARGE. HE ADDED THAT MIR EFFORTS TO REORGANIZE HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY RESTRICTED BY THE CONTINUING PRESSURE EXERTED ON THE TERRORISTS BY THE SECURITY FORCES.

11. ~~COMMENT:~~ 1.5 (c)
IN MID-DECEMBER,

~~SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PDC AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE STEADILY WORSENING. HE SAID THAT DINA IS PRESENTING SOME VERY CONVINCING INFORMATION THAT THE PDC~~

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IS WORKING WITH CHILEAN LABOR IN PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO SUBVERT THE GOVERNMENT.) AFTER CONTRERAS' COMMENTS ON THE PDC, [REDACTED] COMMENTED THAT EVENTUALLY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH THE PDC.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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